

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hisao YASUHARA et al.

Application No.: 09/865,468

Filed: May 29, 2001

For: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PRETREATMENT OF METAL SAMPLES



Group Art Unit: 1744

Docket No.: 109375

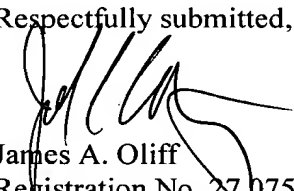
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1-4-02INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTDirector of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the European search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAO:JSA/ldg

Date: December 27, 2001

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